

Message Text

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63/62

ACTION EB-03

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EUR-10 NSC-07 NSCE-00 INR-10

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FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7597

INFO AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

USMISSION OECD PARIS

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y--AMEMBASSY VIENNA ADDED IN LINE EIGHT

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, SZ

SUBJECT: THE SWISS AND THE IEP

REF: A. EC BRUSSELS 7542

B. EC BRUSSELS 7743

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: THE SWISS ARE CONFUSED ABOUT THE NEXT ECG MEETING. THEY HOPE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE IEP AND WANT TO ENSURE THAT THE LINK WITH THE OECD SECRETARIAT IS NOT TOO TIGHT. END SUMMARY.

2. SWISS EC AMBASSADOR, CAILLAT, CALLED ON AMBASSADOR GREENWALD TO DISCUSS THE IEP. CAILLAT SAID THAT THE PRESIDENT OF THE SWISS CONFEDERATION HAD INFORMED THE PARLIAMENT ON OCTOBER 4 OF THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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GOVERNMENT'S PROBABLE INTENTION TO JOIN THE IEP. ANOTHER SWISS

MISSION SOURCE TELLS US THAT THE FINAL DECISION WILL BE TAKEN AT A CABINET MEETING ON OCTOBER 16.

2. CAILLAT SAID THAT THE SWEDES AND THE AUSTRIANS WILL PROBABLY NOT RPT NOT PARTICIPATE IN IEP BECAUSE OF THE NEUTRALITY QUESTION. THERE IS A MEETING OF THE THREE COUNTRIES IN BERN TODAY, OCTOBER 8, AT WHICH THE SWEDISH AND AUSTRIAN POSITIONS MAY BECOME CLEARER.

3. CAILLAT SAID THE SWISS STILL HAVE SOME PRESENTATIONAL PROBLEMS. HE ELABORATED ON SWISS RESERVATIONS ABOUT MEETING IN PARIS AT THE END OF OCTOBER (REFTEL B). THE SWISS STRONGLY PREFER BRUSSELS AS THE LOCUS OF ANY ECG MEETING PRIOR TO THE ACCEPTANCE OF THE IEP BY THE OECD COUNCIL. CAILLAT WAS VAGUE AS TO THE NATURE AND THE TIMEING OF FUTURE MEETINGS. HE INDICATED OCTOBER 29 HAD BEEN MENTIONED AS A DATE FOR A MEETING WITH SWISS PARTICIPATION, BUT NOTED THIS WAS THE TARGET DATE FOR ACCEPTANCE OF THE IEP BY ECG-PARTICIPATING GOVERNEMENTS. SINCE THE SWISS, IF THEY JOIN, HOPE TO BE A " FOUNDING MEMBER" (REFTEL A) OCTOBER 29 DOES NOT SEEM TO BE A REASONABLE DATE FOR CONSULTATIONS.

4. THE SWISS CONTINUE TO FAVOR A LINK TO THE OECD BUT THEY FEEL STRONGLY THAT THE IEP SHOULD HAVE AN AUTONOMOUS STATUS MUCH LIKE THAT OF THE DAC. THE SWISS UNDERSTAND THAT VAN LENNEP WILL INSIST ON A GREATER DEGREE OF SUPERVISION THAN FORESEEN IN THE DRAFT OECD RESOLUTION. THEIR DESIRE TO SEE THE IEP SECRETARIAT INDEPENDENT OF THE REGULAR OECD SECRETARIAT STEMS NOT ONLY FROM A GENERAL RESERVE ABOUT THE EFFICIENCY OF THAT BODY BUT EQUALLY FROM THEIR RESERVATIONS ABOUT VAN LENNEP PERSONALLY. CAILLAT SAID THIS FEELING WAS REINFORCED BY RECENT EXPERIENCE OF JOLLES AS CHAIRMAN OF EXCOM IN SPECIAL SESSION. INSUM, THE SWISS NEED THE OECD FRANEWORK FOR PRESENTATIONAL REASONS IN BERN BUT THEY WANT TO HAVE THE OPERATION AS INDEPENDENT AS POSSIBLE FOR REASONS OF EFFECTIVENESS. GREENWALD

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